

## LIFE &amp; TIMES

B SECTION

## On Post

**Hunter Learning Center**  
Hunter Learning Center, Room 22, Bldg. 1290 is now open at night.

The new hours for student computer use are:

Monday — Thursday 4 to 8:30 p.m.

Friday — 4 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday — 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 1900

Sunday noon to 6 p.m.

There are 16 computers available with internet access. The computers can be used to brush up on your basic skills or study for CLEP tests, the SAT and other exams. Monday to Friday an academic facilitator can assist you with research, assignments and test preparation.

## Army One Source

Telephone counseling service is available for personal support and referrals to military and community resources.

For more information visit <http://www.army-onesource.com>. User ID Army password is "Onesource" or call 1-800-464-8107.

## Bible Study

Two Protestant bible studies are being offered to Soldiers and family members at Fort Stewart.

The Working Women Bible for Protestant Women of the Chapel will be held Wednesdays 7 to 8 p.m. at Marne Chapel.

The bible study is geared for working wives or Soldiers. Come and join the fun. The Protestant women of the Chapel will meet Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Vale Chapel

Every Tuesday deepen your relationship with the Lord while enjoying fellowship with other wives.

## Free baby layettes

Families who have had children since being deployed to Iraq, or have had them since their return, are eligible to receive a free layette offered by Spencer's Children's Clothing Company, Inc.

For specific guidelines and applications, contact the American Red Cross office at 767-2197.

## Town Hall Meeting

Stewart will be holding their Town Hall Meeting, Thursday, Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be in the Palmetto Room, at Club Stewart.

For more information call 767-5058.

## Off Post

## Tsunami Relief

The Savannah International Trade and Convention Center is hosting Tsunami Relief Comedy Show, Thursday, Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m., in the Grand Ballroom.

For more information call 963-0941.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-5979. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.



Catherine Caruso

Sgt. Jake Pacheco (rear) gets a helping hand from a fellow Soldier. Pacheco and his family received new living room furniture in appreciation of his service to his country.

Giving back ...

## Local donates furniture to Soldiers

Catherine Caruso

Hunter PAO

There's no place like home.

That's something Yvonne Wright learned as the daughter of a soldier, and again when she became the wife of one.

When her husband, Leonard, retired at Fort Stewart in 1999, they made Georgia their home and Yvonne turned her passion for home-making into a profession.

Recently, this proud proprietor of a furniture store decided to give something back to the military.

This month, Yvonne gave sofas, loveseats, end tables, dining room tables, table chairs and easy chairs, to more than half a dozen deserving soldiers and their families.

The military did a lot for me and my husband. We made friends, we traveled," Wright said. "It did so much. This is the least we could do." But the least she could do was a lot.

Sgt. Jake Pacheco and his wife, Sarah, lost much of their furniture to a flood.

What was left was damaged.

"Our couch is still up on blocks," Sarah Pacheco said.

The Pachecos brought twins McKayla and Lyla to pick up their living room set.

In the storeroom, they pulled the plastic off the burgundy striped sofa and loveseat, and were shown the end tables and coffee table they were being given.

"Is everything OK," Leonard Wright asked them, a few minutes later.

It's more than OK, Pacheco said.

It's beautiful, Sarah Pacheco said.

White's store is only one year old, and even at wholesale prices, the furniture she gave away cost thousands of dollars.

But this day had been a dream of hers for a long time, and in more ways than one.

"All my life, I've loved furniture. I really fell in love with it when we were in Germany, and I was exposed to such a diversity of people and styles. I was either going to open a furniture store, or become a real estate agent. I guess it's better I went

See FURNITURE, Page 3B

## Army Field Band leads Inaugural Parade

Gary Sheftick and Tammy Jarrett

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army Field Band led the first division of the Inaugural Parade Jan. 20, directly following the presidential escort.

Field band members said they have been practicing almost two months for their prestigious role in the parade. The musical ambassadors of the Army travel around the nation performing at concerts, but said they seldom have an opportunity to march.

"We're on the road about 100 days a year," said Staff Sgt. Jennifer Gabrysh.

She said performing in towns across America often fills her with "an overwhelming feeling of pride ... just to see the reactions on the people's faces."

Gabrysh plays the oboe in concerts and the piccolo when marching. Her first event with the Field Band was the farewell ceremony for President Bill Clinton exactly four years ago.

This Inaugural Parade was the first performance with the band for Spc. Katayoon Hodjati who joined only a month ago.

She said before the event



Maj. William Thurmond

The Army Field Band marches down Pennsylvania Avenue near 7th Street, leading the first division of the Presidential Inaugural Parade.

that just a "bit of butterflies" accompanied her preparation for being part of the parade's lead element.

The march was one of the highlights of a 30-year career for Sgt. Maj. Robert Barnett of the Field Band and Soldier's Chorus noncom-

misioned officer in charge.

"Just to catch a glimpse of the president, that will be an exciting moment," he said.

Another Soldier's father said he hoped to catch a glimpse of her at the front of the parade. Sgt. 1st Class Sarah Anderson's father was

watching the parade on television from Arlington Heights, Ill.

Anderson doubles as the band's music librarian when not playing the trumpet, acquiring new music and handing it out to the band's rank and file.

"I can't really tell my dad,

hey, I filled some music today — that's not very exciting. But I can tell him, hey, I'm going to be in the Inaugural Parade. That's something he can tell his friends and he loves that, he added.

"It's a huge honor, and I'm sure they are all watching."



Army Field Band members line up on the National Mall to begin their march leading Division One of the Inaugural Parade.

Gary Sheftick

Photos by Catherine Caruso

Jacqueline Stokes plays "the name game" with her class of preschoolers, who are learning to recognize their names on printed cards, and to identify the letters of the alphabet. The center, which recently recertified its national accreditation, is used by the United Way to model "best practices" in early childhood education for regional child care providers. Child care fees cover just 30 percent of the operating expenses at the center, Hunter Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Goble said.



# Hunter CDC renews national accreditation

Catherine Caruso

Hunter Pao

"Children are our future," said Hunter Army Airfield Child Development Center Director Darnie Hampton.

"Will they be our next doctors? Will they be our custodians? What will they be?" Hampton asked the crowd gathered at the Hunter CDC to celebrate the facility's re-certification as a nationally accredited childcare provider on Jan. 13.

"One day, they will be our leaders," she said.

Military childcare centers are required to undergo the rigorous independent evaluation every five years and achieve the coveted re-certification.

But Hampton said most are not successful on their first try.

"It's very intense, and a year's worth of effort by every member of the staff, from the providers to the custodians, absolutely everyone," she said.

The Hunter CDC was one of the first military childcare centers to achieve national accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young children several years ago. It is also one of the first to be reaccredited under the new guidelines.

And it is the only nationally



Vickie Toxey dances with a ribbon while Makayla ravelo, a pre-toddler, is walking with Sheryl Archangel.

accredited center in Chatham county, and the Chatham/Bryan/Effingham tri-county area, said Hunter Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Goble.

"This is a big deal. We have to do this. But it says something, that this is the level of care the Army requires us to provide for your children," Goble said.

The Hunter CDC is used by the United Way's "Smart Start" program as a model of "best practices" for childcare providers seeking national accreditation.

National accreditation is both an intense, time-consuming, and expensive process, which is why it is so uncommon in the civilian marketplace, said Greg Schroeder, president of the United Way of the Coastal Empire.

"Since it is uncommon, there isn't a lot of incentive to seek it. Smart Start provides counseling, but also financial incentives to centers that seek it. Ultimately, we hope to raise the bar and create a market incentive for providers in the area to seek it on their own," Schroeder

said.

He added, military families at Hunter have access to the best childcare the nation has to offer now. And the center's pre-Kindergarten program, offered through the state of Georgia and open to the greater Savannah community, has a reputation so great it's waiting list requires the center to award seats in the pre-K classes by lottery.

As part of their accreditation process, directors spent the past year interviewing staff members, parents, and children to find out what people wanted from the facility, and what they wanted changed.

When changes were implemented, those parties were surveyed again on their reaction to the results.

More than anything else, that high level of responsiveness to the unique needs of every member of their community, from the youngest child to the most senior employee, is

what drives the accreditation process and the center's evaluation, Hampton said.

"Especially the interactions between the child and the staff. How do they work with the kids? Play with the kids? What they do when the child has a tantrum?" Hampton said.

Just a few cross words can mean the difference between being accredited and having to start all over again.

That interaction is also the first thing parents notice, even those not involved in the re-accreditation surveys.

On the same day as the re-accreditation ceremony, parent and military spouse Nicole Angel spent a few hours watching her two-year old son, Ryan, weather his first week at the Hunter CDC.

She smiled as she spotted Ryan, shyly clinging to the hand of his caretaker on the far side of the playground.

"I'm just here to check on him. I don't want him to see me or he'll cry. It's hard to leave him," said Angel, who plans to leave Ryan with the Hunter CDC staff while she takes classes at the Savannah Technical College campus downtown. "But my husband and I have both spent time here, watching the way the staff are with the children, and we are really impressed."

Hampton said that level of service is not a temporary measure put in place for the sake of the re-accreditation, nor something that will slip between now and when the CDC begins the process all over again in another few years.

It's also something NAEYC plans to enforce, with a new requirement that will subject accredited facilities to equally rigorous spot checks during the intervening time.

"It's the single most important factor after they determine the child is being cared for in a safe environment. It's important to us. And every single person counts," she said.



Khalil Freeman is eager to show what he has been taught.



Gwendolyn Stanley feeds infant Myles Krumm, while others wait their turn. All children at the Hunter CDC dine on healthy meals while seated with staff members.

# Inauguration begins with salute to troops

Donna Miles

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — As the nation prepared to celebrate its 55th presidential inauguration, President Bush said Jan. 18 that he could "think of no better way to begin than by giving thanks for our freedom and those who make it possible."

The president headlined a star-studded lineup of celebrities and military and civilian government leaders who gathered at the MCI Center Jan. 18 for a gala "Saluting Those Who Serve" event to honor members of the armed forces. The event is the first in a long line of activities leading up to the Jan. 20 inauguration.

"As I prepare to take the oath of office, I want you to know how grateful I am for your service and sacrifice, and how proud I am to be your commander in chief," Bush told the estimated 6,000 service members and their families and guests.

The audience also included troops deployed to Southwest Asia, who watched the gala via satellite in Baghdad, Iraq, and Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

"Whether you serve in the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard, each of

you have stepped forward to serve," the president told the cheering crowd. "You have risked your lives in faraway mountains and arid deserts, in perilous skies and on the high seas, to defend liberty and to free those trapped by tyranny."

Bush cited the inauguration as an outward sign of what America is all about. "The inauguration of a president is a great moment in the life of our country," Bush said, noting that it's a time to celebrate freedom and the power of democracy.

The president credited the men and women in uniform for helping extend that same power to more than 50 million people in Afghanistan and Iraq during the past four years. He called the first free elections in Afghanistan's 5,000-year history and the upcoming elections in Iraq "landmark events in the history of liberty."

"And none of it would have been possible without the courage and the determination of the United States armed forces," he said.

Bush told the troops their service and sacrifice in the war on terror is making America safer — for today and the future. "Your sacrifice has made it possible for our children and grandchildren



Donna Miles

President George W. Bush salutes guests attending a pre-inaugural event honoring the men and women of the U.S. military at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C., Jan. 18.

to grow up in a safer world," he said.

But this success has come at a great cost and through tremendous sacrifice, the president noted. He acknowledged the long separations families must endure, the wounds many service members will carry with them for the rest of their lives, the heroes who gave their lives, and the families who grieve them.

"We hold them in our hearts," Bush said. "We lift them up in our

prayers."

The president paid a special tribute to military family members who stand by their loved ones as they serve the nation. "Your families miss you and they worry about you and they pray for you, always wondering where you are and if you're safe," he said. "By their sacrifice, they also serve."

Bush said those who wear the uniform have given much, and will be asked to give more in the

months and years ahead as the war on terror continues. "In Afghanistan and Iraq, the liberty that has been won at great cost now must be secured," he said. "We still face terrorist enemies who wish to harm our people and are seeking weapons that would allow them to kill on an unprecedented scale."

"These enemies must be stopped," Bush said, "and you are the ones who will stop them."

The road ahead will be difficult and dangerous, the president said, "but we can proceed with courage and with confidence" because we live in "hopeful times, when the promise of freedom is spreading across the world."

"And the cause of freedom is in the best of hands — the hands of the United States armed forces," the president said.

President George W. Bush saluted guests attending a pre-inaugural event honoring the men and women of the U.S. military at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C., Jan. 18.

About 14,000 guests attended the event, including 7,000 military service members, wounded soldiers from Walter Reed Army Medical Center, families of fallen soldiers and Congressional Medal of Honor winners

## FURNITURE

from page 1B

with furniture, or I'd be trying to give away houses," she said.

When she and her husband were first starting out, their first household purchases were silverware, and sheets. New furniture came later.

But in time, the military gave her husband a rewarding career and not only inspired her to pursue her own, and in time, gave her family the means to do so.

She said she wants Soldiers to see that the hardships they endure now can pay off in the future.

"And with all that we hear,

with all that's going on, we want them to know we are thinking of them," Leonard Wright said. "We wanted to say 'stay safe, and keep God with you.'"

All of the soldiers receiving their gift deployed or had orders to deploy in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Dorothea White and daughter Kayla were trying to set up a new home in Savannah to return to when their soldier returns from overseas.

They are starting from scratch in the United States, because

Dorothea's furniture is in her apartment in Germany, Spc. Tawone White said.

"It's ok, but we sit on the floor right now. It's like camping," she said.

Pfc. Rebecca Galloway didn't deploy with the 224th Military Intelligence Bn. because she was pregnant with now 3-month old Damon.

She worked with the deployed soldiers, spending 14 hours a day reviewing their intelligence as it was collected, then relaying it back to Afghanistan by satellite.

Galloway and her husband, Erik, got so many hand-me-downs from her parents, they were well equipped to furnish their living room.

But with a new baby in the house, their next big purchase was going to have to be a crib.

Galloway was thrilled to receive a new dining room table and chairs for their home.

"The old one was teetering, and we definitely did not have the money to replace it," Galloway said.

She added, "This is really incredible. Some people get out

of the Army and they forget how hard it is starting out. These people remembered us and I'm so grateful."

Wright said her reward was the smiles on the soldiers' faces.

But she hopes some day they will pass on her gift when they are in a position to do so.

"The military can do a lot of good things. Make a career of it, retire, stay healthy, and stay safe," she said.

Galloway added, "And I hope, when you can, you'll keep it going by doing something for someone else."

# SPORTS & FITNESS

## On Post

### Track and Field/Soccer

Registration begins Feb. 1 and is open and FREE to all current CYS members living on or off post. Track and Field is open to ages 6 through 18 and soccer is open to ages 4 through 15. Deadline for registration is March 11, or when teams are full.

All children must have a current physical on file at time of registration.

For more information call 767-2312/4371.

### Basketball

Free co-ed basketball league games to be played through Feb. 24. is open to family members age 16 and up. Sign up by Wednesday at the Sports Office, Bldg. 471. For more information call Randy at 767-8238.

### Newman

The Newman Physical Fitness Center will be closed until Sept. due to renovations. Use Caro or Jordan fitness centers, open 7 days a week.

For more information, call 767-2771.

### Super Bowl Events

Sports USA is holding a Super Bowl party from 1 p.m. to midnight Feb. 6. They will be offering giveaways during the event and FREE food.

Club Stewart's party starts at 5 p.m. until the end of the game. The cost of the event is \$5.

### Hunter Baseball and T-Ball

Baseball and t-ball signups start Feb. 7 at Hunter. Participation is free. You can pick up a sign-up packet and register at Bldg. 1286 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the week. Children must have CYS registration and sports physicals completed at the time of registration.

### Bowling

Bowl for \$1 and get shoes for \$.75 on Fridays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bowl for \$1.25 and \$1 for shoes Sunday, Family Day, all day at Marne Lanes Bowling Center.

### Volleyball

Free co-ed volleyball league signups will be ongoing through Wednesday, open to ages 16 and older.

Call Randy Walker at 767-8238 for details. Sign up at the Sports Office, Bldg. 471.

### Golf Clinics

Free Saturday golf clinics at Taylor Creek Golf Course in January. Spouses and Juniors, 10 to 11 a.m. Clinic cancelled in bad weather. For more information call 767-2370.

### Volunteer Coaches

With the deployment of our troops, assistance is desperately needed for children's sport activities.

If you are interested in becoming a coach or assistant, volunteer forms are available at Bldg. 7337 or call 767-2312.

## Off Post

### PT Alert

Units can schedule a PT session with a YMCA aerobics or kick boxing instructor at either Fort Stewart or our Hinesville facility.

There is no charge for this service.

## Soldiers open bowl game for all-American athletes

Richard Lamance

Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO — America's top high school athletes shared center stage with America's top Soldiers during the 2005 U.S. Army All-American Bowl high school all-star football game held in the Alamodome Jan. 15.

East versus West players battled in front of a nationally televised audience and in front of 30,305 fans, the largest in the Army's five-year history of hosting the event. The West manhandled the East team by a score of 35 - 3.

The theme of this year's bowl, sponsored by the U.S. Army Accessions Command, headquartered at Fort Monroe, Va., was "celebrating the American Soldier," dedicated to Soldiers involved with either Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

During pre-game activities, 50 Soldiers who were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Bronze Star or the Purple Heart were introduced to the audience along with the nation's top 78 high school players.

Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard A. Cody, during a dinner honoring the "heroes" at the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center in San Antonio, said "It's important to recognize the great service our Soldiers are involved with in fighting the war on terrorism with Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. It's a great reminder that our Soldiers' service is important and that we are indebted to them for not only their character of service, but because they joined the Army during a time of war."

Cody believes there is an important tie-in to the All-American players who come from all walks of life from states throughout America.

"These young men are dedicated and have a great sense of teamwork, with the intestinal fortitude and discipline that make them All-Americans. They share the same values of teamwork, bravery, discipline and a sense of something bigger than themselves that are qualities of our Soldiers today," he added.

More than 800 Soldiers attending medical advanced individual training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas marched onto the field to recite the Soldier's Creed, along with the 82nd Airborne Division "All-American" Chorus from Fort Bragg, N.C., who provided a musical salute.

A group of 100 San Antonio delayed-entry-program recruits were given the oath of enlistment by Cody during a pre-game ceremony.

Several Medal of Honor recipients were also honored during a pre-game salute. Retired Maj. Gen. Patrick Brady, who received the nation's highest award for gallantry in Vietnam, was honored along with retired Sgt. 1st Class Jose M. Lopez, a San Antonio native, who received the Medal of Honor for action in Belgium during the famed Battle of the Bulge toward the end of World War II.

Other honorees included Clarence Sasser, a medical evacuation specialist awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in Vietnam; retired Col. Roger Donlon, also for action at the risk of his life while serving in Vietnam and Shizuya Hayashi, for bravery during a battle near Cerasuolo, Italy, during World War II.

Alfred Rascon, an Army Reserve Soldier brought back to active duty for a two-year stint in 2003, was honored as the only Medal of Honor recipient currently on active duty. He has served the past two years with the Office of the Army Surgeon General and received his award from President



Air Force Master Sgt. Jack Braden

The East's, Jason Gwaltney, runs for yardage against a West team that walked away with a 35 to 3 win during the fifth U.S. Army-sponsored All-American Bowl at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Clinton in 2000 for gallant actions in Vietnam during his tour in 1966.

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Gruidl, one of the Iraqi Freedom veterans honored before the game, believes the messages he and his fellow Soldiers articulate during the week are important ones.

"Our most important mission during these events is to help bridge the gap between Soldiers and civilians and to show how the Army values and the qualities of leadership, teamwork and commitment to excellence are a foundation that can be used for both a Soldier and a player of the game of

football," he added.

The Silver Star recipient for actions during Iraqi Freedom also believes that there's no better time in America's history to be a Soldier than today.

"It is important to be a Soldier today because our country needs us to continue to protect that great blanket of freedom that America sleeps so soundly under," Gruidl said. The Army values are wrapped up in everything we do as Soldiers, so those who look up to us can themselves become productive parts of society."

## Army finishes second in Armed Forces Bowling

Timm Hippias

Army News Service

DALLAS — Army finished second in both the men's and women's divisions of the 2005 Armed Forces Bowling Championships Jan. 10-12 at Don Carter All-Star Lanes West.

The tournament was contested in conjunction with the 2005 USA Bowling National Amateur Championships and the field was cut to the top 32 men and 24 women after three days of competition. Air Force 1st Lt. Rickie Banister, who won the Armed Forces men's division with a 24-game total of 4,847, was the only military bowler to make the cut and finished 29th in the nation.

All-Army coach Dean Ryan said Banister was the difference in the Armed Forces men's tournament.

"I really thought this was the year that our men honestly had a chance to beat Air Force and we probably should've," said Ryan, manager of Fort Meade Lanes in Maryland. "I feel one man beat us, and that was Rickie Banister. He just had a tremendous tournament."

Air Force won the men's division with a score of 27,343, followed by Army (27,174), defending champion Marine Corps (26,080) and Navy (25,680). The Air Force women prevailed with a score of 25,134, followed by Army (23,755) and Navy/Marines (23,143), who combined for one team.

Master Sgt. Christine Dash overcame a pinched nerve in her left leg to win the Armed Forces women's division with a 24-game total of 4,390.

"I fell out of every shot because I couldn't get down with the ball," said Dash, 38, stationed at the Air National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va. "It was a matter of figuring out what was the easiest way to deal with the pain and make a shot."

Dash won the women's title in 1988 but didn't return to the tournament until 2001 when she won her second championship. She said her "mental game" was the key to winning a third crown.

"I stay focused," she said. "I don't worry about what other people are doing around me. It's a mental game, it really is. You could see that here because I had no physical game. Execution is the key. When I throw a bad shot, I forget about it. A lot of people

have a hard time doing that."

Many military bowlers admitted they were flustered by the national championships' use of sport-oil conditions, which are much tougher to score upon than most house-league surfaces.

"The big difference I notice is that you don't get an area to shoot at like you do in a house shot," Dash explained. "On sport-shot, you've got one board you have to go over every time. That's where the mental game comes in. The way the oil is laid on the lane it wears different and it has different thicknesses in different places than what you're normally used to, so you have to be extremely accurate to shoot well on sport-oil conditions."

"It makes a bowler out of you, that's what it does," added Army Staff Sgt. Dwayne Watkins, who finished second in the Armed Forces men's division with a 4,627 total. "It's mental, it's tough, it's physical - it will wear you down if you don't know what you're doing."

Watkins, a Kiowa Warrior crew chief at Fort Rucker, Ala., bowled a 290 on the second day after settling for a spare in his first frame.

"I rolled 11 strikes in a row after that," said Watkins, who has 14 perfect games on his resume. "But I also threw some games away on Tuesday. My spare shooting was not a good thing."

"We were up more than 200 pins on the first day and yesterday a lot of us just fell apart," Watkins said of the Army men. "It's not an individual thing. Everybody has to click, and we didn't click the last two days. Air Force bowled well today, but we kicked it away yesterday. A lot of us dropped a lot of sticks."

Watkins, a native of Austin, Texas, began bowling as a child with his family and has continued for 30 years. His parents drove to Dallas for the All-Army Trials Camp but had to return home so dad could compete in a league during the Armed Forces Championships.

The Army and Air Force had a three-day camp in Dallas a week prior to the Armed Forces Championships to select their teams.

Watkins' performance here was his best on sport-oil conditions since he finished all-events runner-up in the 1993 American

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

## Long distance relationships can work

Chaplain (Maj.)  
Timothy E. Sowers  
Family Life Chaplain

Relationships take work even when both parties live in the same house. Hardship can increase when there is distance. The thought of only seeing the one you love for a few weeks of the year is difficult. Military couples often find themselves faced with distance which may not be their first choice but they can make the best of it. Long distance relationships require endurance and strength. Feelings may not always be pleasant, yet you can create a positive outcome.

One thing to remember in carrying out a long distance relationship is not to dwell on the bad. It is good to express the way you feel, but do not make a habit of throwing yourself a pity party every other day. This will only make you feel worse and send you into a mild depression. Continue going about your daily routine and stay busy. When you stay busy your days go fast and you do not have time to mope. Communication is vital in keeping the gap close. Focus on the positive aspects of the relationship and be confident in your relationship.

Here are some additional suggestions... When you can not spend time on the phone, make a tape. Gather together phrases from songs that make a story when played all together. It may take some time, but this is great way stay connected as music brings back special memories shared together. One person made a CD on their computer which contained 18 songs they listened to together. The booklet of the CD contained several poems and the front cover decorated with pasted movie stubs from movies we had seen together, and other small meaningful trinkets.

Add some Chicken Soup for Couple's. The stories are all about couple's and it helps keep couples connected.

Create an e-journal, used each night before going to bed. Though separated, an e-journal will keep each person in tune, not only on how many things made them think of each other, but also with what

they did during the day, the kinds of people they ran into and the types of events that happened. You can actually "woo from afar" — Very creative letter writing makes sure every word in a letter creates a smile and says "I love you."

Write a story about the romantic things you would like to do. They don't have to be things that are going to happen. They can be what ifs. How many people really get the chance to spend a week on a deserted tropical island, or take that walk on the beach when the weather and the moon are perfect. But you can write about it to your hearts content and make everything work out perfectly.

Instead of moping around the house, do something creative and unique. Take a favorite picture and send it to a puzzle company. The puzzle company can make an 8x10 puzzle with about 65 pieces. Send a few pieces every week. This is entertaining and helps to survive the months apart.

During the month of your wedding anniversary send a celebration anniversary box containing an envelope for each day of the month. Decorate each envelope differently and put something different inside. Include something silly — something spiritual — something romantic — a lock of hair, a love letter, a piece of poetry.

These are just a few ideas found on the internet. Make your own list which communicates love and commitment to your relationship. With strength, perseverance, and a will to make it work, committed couples work with each other and are willing to take the good with the bad, the end result will greatly outweigh past difficulties.

Remember, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails...and now these three remain: faith hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." **I Corinthians 13:4-8,13**

# Worship Opportunities

## Fort Stewart

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Heritage	9 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Heritage	5 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.

Protestant	Location	Time
Sunday Protestant Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
Sunday School	Diamond Elementary	9:30 a.m.
Kids' Church(K to 6th grade)	Across from Dia. Elem.	11:00 a.m.

American Samoan	Location	Time
Sunday Worship	Vale	1 p.m.

Muslim	Location	Time
Friday Jum'ah	Building 610	12:30 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Building 610	9 a.m.

Lutheran	Location	Time
Sunday Worship	Marne	9 a.m.

## Hunter Army Airfield

Protestant	Location	Time
Protestant Sunday School	Religious Education Center	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service	Chapel	11 a.m.

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Chapel	9:30 a.m.
CCD	Religious Education Center	11 a.m.



## Pet of the Week

Abby is a 1-year-old, domestic short-haired cat. She needs a home to welcome her. She's extremely lovable and friendly. Abby would make a great companion to anyone wanting a friend.

If you are interested in adopting a pet like Abby for your home, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842. The clinic is located on W. Bultman Avenue.

# Birth Announcements

**Dec. 7**  
**Brayden Chad Smith**, a boy, 4 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Pfc. Shane Smith and Kadie Smith.

**Jan. 8**  
**Ysabella Ryleigh Legua**, a girl, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Spc. Avilyn Legua.

**Jan. 9**  
**Michael Yahir Garcia**, a boy, 7 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Spc. Jonathan Garcia-Rosado and Gloria Ivette Rivera-Deleon.

**Jan. 11**  
**Ariana Grace Hare**, a girl, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Pfc. Brandon Scott Hare and Jennifer Kay Hare.

**James Christopher Midberry**, a girl, 5 pounds, a boy, 8 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Capt. Chris Midberry and Beth Midberry.

**Tyson Donovan Rangel**, a boy, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Sgt. Dominic Rangel and Leslie Rangel.

**Jan. 12**  
**McKaelyn Jade Pannell**, a girl, 8 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Sgt. Keusi L. Pannell and Jodi Pannell.

**Kimberly Ann Good**, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Bradley R. Good and Sandra Green-Good.  
**Hayley Alyssa O'Shields**, a girl, 6

pounds, 3 ounces, born to Cpl. Kevin O'Shield and Tammie O'Shields.

**Jan. 13**  
**Whitlee Anna Booth**, a girl, 9 pounds, 6 ounces, born to 1st Lt. Wade Allan Booth and 1LT Wanda LaMecca Gibbs.

**Nikeya Marie Bethea**, a girl, 6 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Samuel Fitzgerald Bethea and Evaughn Marie Bethea.

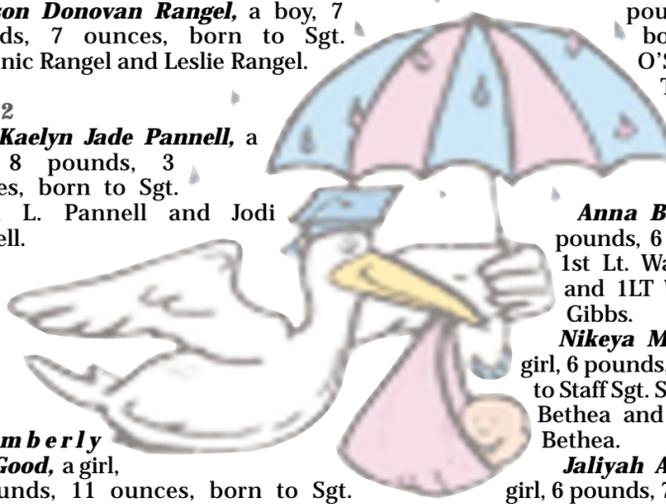
**Jalayah Alexis Bogard**, a girl, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Pfc. Earnest Bogard, III and Deanna Renee Bogard.

**Jan. 15**  
**Bryce Adam Krouse**, a boy, 5 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Pfc. Adam Michael Krouse and Raeshaundra Sharee Krouse  
**TaNarra Valaziah Miller**, a girl, 7 pounds, born to Spc. Kevin Tyrone Miller, Jr. and Tawinka Malloyn Miller.

**Jan. 16**  
**Jackson Kyle Coley**, a boy, 6 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Sgt. Tarvis Kyle Coley and Olivia Coley.

**Jan. 19**  
**Aaliyah Marie Miller**, a girl, 7 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Pfc. Derek William Miller and Samantha Jo. Miller.

**Jan. 20**  
**Tristan Catalo Storm**, a boy, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Spc. Chad Allen Storm and Dinah I. Storm.



## Volunteer Spotlight

Maria Adams



Maria volunteers as Support and AFTB secretary at ACS. Adams said she volunteers to keep busy while her husband is deployed.

Although keeping busy helps Maria, she also enjoys meeting new people and gaining some work experience.

"I also enjoy the fun activities ACS and AFTB offer," she said.

If you would like more information about becoming an Army Community Service volunteer, contact Vickie Wiginton at 767-5058/5059 or email her at [vickie.wiginton@stewart.army.mil](mailto:vickie.wiginton@stewart.army.mil).



# WOODRUFF THEATER

Jan. 27 - Feb. 2



Friday, Saturday and Sunday admission is \$3.50 for adults, \$1.75 for children.

Monday through Thursday admission is \$1.75 for adults, \$1.25 for children.

### Closer (R)

Starring: Julia Roberts, Jude Law  
Tonight at 7 p.m.

Closer is the story of four strangers and their chance meetings, instant attractions, and brutal betrayals. The couples find out that love can disappoint when one of them experiences an affair. One man falls in love with his sweetheart at first sight, but, the characters later ponder, is there such a thing as instant passion?

Run Time: 104 minutes

### Spanglish (PG-13)

Starring: Adam Sandler, Téa Leoni  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

When the beautiful native Mexican woman Flor, the mother of a 12-year-old girl, becomes the housekeeper for an affluent Los Angeles family, cultures collide. Of all the horrifying pitfalls she worried about in this new culture, Flor had never fathomed the peril of being truly embraced by an upscale American family.

Run Time: 113 minutes

### Lemony Snicket's (PG)

Starring: Jim Carrey, Meryl Streep  
MATINEE: Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire are three intelligent young children who receive terrible news that their parents have died in a fire and have left them an enormous fortune not to be used until the eldest child is of age. They are taken in by a series of odd relatives and other people, including Lemony Snicket, who narrates the film, and the cunning and dastardly Count Olaf who is plotting to kill them and snatch their inheritance from them.

Run Time: 131 minutes

